

Sl. No.	Name of Dental College	Reasons for not allowing admissions as on 12-07-02
16.	Rama Dental College & Hospital & Research Centre, A/1, Lakhanpur, (Near Shahu Ji Maharaj University Kanpur-208024 (UP)	The case of recognition of BDS degree is yet to be decided.
17.	Saraswati Dental College 16, Goel Place, Sanjay Gandhi Puram Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226006 (UP)	The Council is yet to send its recommendations for recognition of BDS degree

AIDS vaccine

485. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "AIDS vaccine raises many question", which appeared in the Times of India, dated 14th May, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the measures proposed to be adopted to address problems highlighted in the aforeisaid news-item?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 4th December, 2000, with the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) to further promote and accelerate the efforts to develop an indigenous AIDS vaccine that will address the strains of the HIV subtype C predominant in India. The Government of India, ICMR and IAVI agreement is based on a commitment toward collaboration and transparency in vaccine trials for development of a vaccine.

An advisory group including people living with HIV/AIDS, NGOs and several experts, especially those working on gender has been constituted. The advisory group will advise Government in all aspects of vaccine development and access such as: ethics of clinical trials; gender and human rights issues; information dissemination; development of guidelines and protocols to address stigma and exclusion of HIV/AIDS infected persons.

Focal Points for plague bacteria

486. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the medical experts have identified four areas in the country which are focal points for plague bacteria;

(b) if so, the details of the areas;

(c) the criteria for the identification of these areas as focal points; and

(d) the preventive measures taken in these areas to prevent the outbreak of the deadly disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The focal points for plague exist at the tri-junction of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and also in the State of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh.

- (c) * Cases of plague were reported from the above areas during the pandemic from 1889-1950.
- * Case of human plague was reported from Mulbagal, Kolar district in Karnataka in 1966.
- * Serosurveillance for plague showed antibodies against *Y pestis* (Plague organism) in rodents in the tri-junction of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.
- * Outbreak of plague in Gujarat and Maharashtra in 1994.
- * Suspected outbreak of plague in 1983 and confirmed outbreak of plague in 2002 Himachal Pradesh.